TORREY CORRESPONDENCE
HERBARIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY.

Charleston 12 Septbr 1832.

Sir

Although I have not the pleasure of your acquaintance, yet the importance of the subject on which I will address you will, I hope, sufficiently excuse for the liberty. The high standing, which you have in the scientific world, has induced me, to believe, that you will give every aid in your power to foster all undertakings, that have in view the enlargements of science. I departed last year from Germany for this country, with the intention to explore some part of it. Although Stephen Elliott the great Botanist be no more, yet I perceive with pleasure, that botany is making rapid increases in Charleston, even among the fair sex. I spend my leisure hours I devote to the study of medecine, and to my favorite study naturalhistory. My object in addressing you, is to state to you the design, which I have in forming an expedition to Florida for the purpose of collecting specimens of naturalhistory in the several departments, of botany mineral. entomologi. The variety of plants is certainly greater than especially in East Florida, where the flora, as I should suppose, has a similarity to that of Mexico and the West Indies, and the number of described plants will certainly be enriched with atleast 100 new ones. The Portugas offer a great field for Conchology the streams, for Ichthyologie. Not having for the present means enough to carry it through at my own expense, I will undertake it by subscription, the money is afterwards returned in the collected subjects. The ticket is only $10 a member. 15 specimen or sometimes of the smaller kind of every species of plants will be forwarded to every member, plants, which can not be collected in so large a number, as 60–90 of the same species, are distributed after proportion. Persons taking 2 tickets will get of course the double number especially of those which could not be collected in sufficient a number as 70–80 of the same species. Persons can subscribe at any of the

branches of mineralogy, bot. &c. Zoology from Ornithologie and Zoologie will be collected in small [illegible] however I shall not neglect, to collect flowerseeds, which will be very agreable to many florists and amateurs of flowers. I shall leave Charleston about the middle of February next for S. Augustine, I shall go from there to Jacksonville, Palatka, Lake George, from whence I penetrate in the Interior or return to the western coast of East Florida, examine the most remarkable places along the coast, especially Charlotte harbor and the environs of Lake Maycca, and at last the Portugese Florida Reefs, from whence I will return to Charleston, which will be about the middle of June, after that the distribution immediately begins. On my part no exertions shall be spared to add something to the Natural history of this country. I beg leave to tender you my esteem, and solicit from you your endeavours in aiding me in the pursuit of an object, that may be important to the lovers of science. You will oblige me very much indeed, if you would open a subscription in Newyork under your praesidium, and you will be so good to observe, that the ~~maccyes~~ [illegible] to subscribers is send on to December, that I can prepare myself for the Journey. Should you wish any information in respect of my qualification, I beg reference to the follow. gentlemen L. Schweinitz in Bethlehem, M. James Audubon, the naturalist, in Boston, Dr. Geddings in Baltimore, Dr. Green in Boston and any respectable person of Charleston. I shall be happy to receive soon from you an answer. Should you have any demands, perhaps of European plants, of which I posses a good number I am always at your service.

With sentiments of the highest respect

Your obed.t serv.t

Edward F. Leitner

To Dr. J. Torrey Newyork.

My Address is
Edward F. Leitner care of Dr. Edward Holbrook
Charleston.

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